THE ARMY AND THE PRESIDENCY.

An officer of an artillery company in the Pennsylvania troops now serving under Gen. Grant has requested us to give a place in our columns to the 17th: the subjoined article. We have yielded to the request with some reluctance, not that there is paign are already known to the public—the massing of request with some reluctance, not that there is Gen. Thomas' army at Chattanooga; the advance to any thing in his communication improper for a Ringgold, and the passage of Taylor's Ridge; the march of McPherson from Huntsville, Decatur, and other places, citizen to say or for us to publish, but because the points which the writer discusses, so far as they the descent of Schofield from East Tennessee to form are brought to bear on the Presidential question, are deemed premature for our journal, however proper their discussion may and will be after the candidates for the office of President are definitely selected and presented to the country. But, as the writer claims the privilege of offering his views in reply to some who have assumed to interpret the political sentiment of the Pennsylvanians in the Army of the Potomac, we should do injustice to the freedom of the press were we to refuse

ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA, MAY 22, 1864. Messrs. EDITORS: I observe in the columns of the Morning Chronicle of the 21st instant that some soldier has called the Editor to an account for his allegation that McClellan had no friends in the army. It seems to be taken for granted by the Chronicle and some other papers that Mr. Lincoln will get the entire soldiers' vote at the ensuing election. I think that those gentlemen who think so will wake up some fine morning along about November and find that the soldiers' votes have played smash with their calculations.

I can't see how the leaders of the Administration party can ask or expect the votes of the white soldiers, for it seems to be the object of many of them to show their admiration of the blacks at the expense of the white soldiers. My attention was called yesterday to an extract from a speech delivered in the House of Representatives by the Hon. William D. Kelley, of Pennsylvania, in which he uttered the following extraordinary sentiment:

"Mr. Speaker, the men of this era of whom the poet will sing in highest strains, the men whom the orator will est eulogize, the men in this grand civil war of whom the historian will write his most glowing panegyries, are the negro soldiers of the loyal army."

Now, the poor white soldier who has volunteered to go forth in the cause of his country, leaving a family and the comforts of home, receiving the small pittance of thirteen dollars per month to undergo the dangers and hardships of a campaign, is not willing to give up his place upon the page of his country's history (perhaps the only legacy he can leave his children) to these colored troops and their white commanders. He does not believe either that the negro soldier is more disinterested than the white in the result of the existing conflict. If the South succeeds a large portion of these colored troops would be returned to their masters in the South, and when they reflect that this war was brought on mainly by the sympathy of Northern people for the blacks in their enslaved condition he must feel that he is not so entirely disinterested as Mr. Kelley would endeavor to make him believe. But this seems to be the sentiment of the Administration party, and in order to make it entirely current, the Chronicle, the Administration organ, calls attention to it in the following enthusiastic remarks:

"The eloquent words of Hon. Wm. D Kelley, of Pennsylvania, spoken in the House of Representatives on the 30th of April, in vindication of the self-sacrificing spirit of our fellow-colored citizeus, will be read by every loyal man with peculiar pleasure, and we know they will be equally gratifying to the brave and disinterested white heroes in

I am a Pennsylvanian, and speak more particularly for some regiments from that State; and I think I may safely may that Pennsylvania soldiers are one-term men; they are Gov. Curtin men. All Pennsylvania soldiers idolize Curtin because they know that he has labored assiduously for their interest and their welfare. It is also asserted that the Administration, or rather the War Department, has not treated the suggestions and wishes of Gov. Curtin with the respect due him and the great State he represents. It is alleged now that they refuse to sllow her to officer the troops furnished by the State; that they have sent a regint of artiller, of some fifteen hundred men into the service of the War Department; and that they even refused to allow the Governo. to appoint surgeons for the regiment, but rushed it into the field with one or two me dical students, (known as contract surgeons,) instead of allowing these men what the law allowed-the three surgeons who had passed the board of medical examination for the State. The Governor asserts that this is a palpable usurpation upon the part of the War Department of a power reserved to the States by the Constitution; that it is in violation of existing acts of Congress upon the subject, and that he cannot submit to any such inroad upon the rights of the State. I am told that the President agrees entirely with Gov. Curtin, but he has not got enough of old Jackson in him to contend with the Secretary of

The Republicans in the army say that when they voted for Mr. Lincoln they supposed he was to have a Republican Cabinet, and that they never bargained for a portion of the Lecempton Cabinet of Buchanan's Administration. I believe a majority of them are for Chase, or "old Greenback," as they call him; they say he furnished the grease while Mr. Stanton and Gen. Halleck were running the machine the last three years, and a man who could do this is certainly entitled to the highest honors at the hands of his country.

The Democrats in the army are for Grant or McClellan Some of them now speak of Hancock, and what a candidate he would make! He is the admiration of the whole army. His name is in every soldier's mouth. He is a descendant of old John, whose name stands forth so conspi-cuously upon the Declaration of Independence, and he has inherited all the patriotism and all the courage that stands forth so defiantly in that bold signature to the great proclamation of human rights. He would sweep the one hun dred thousand soldier votes from Pennsylvania clean. PENNSYLVANIA SOLDIER.

NEW YORK METROPOLITAN FAIR.

TREASURER'S OFFICE.

No. 2, Great Jones street The Treasurer of the Metropolitan Fair submits the following statement of a count to date: ELLEN R. STRONG, Treasurer, in account with THE METROPOL: TAN FAIR ASSOCIATION.

DR.
To amount of cash subscriptions received to date...... \$560,399 71

To amount of cash receipts, Fair 14th street Department..... To amount of cash receipts, Fair Union square Department, per E. Judson

Hawley, Treasurer U. S. D..... Total\$1,196,946 50

By amount paid for Expen-

ses to date, 14th street Department...... \$125,274 49 By amount paid for Expensee to date. Union square Department.....

By cash paid United States Sanitary Commission... \$1,000,000 00 **\$1,136 225 02**

May 17, 1864.—Balance on hand this day 60,721 48 ELLEN R. STRONG, Treasurer M. F. A.

NEW YORK, MAY 18, 1864. The undersigned,'a Committee appointed to audit and examine the accounts and books of the Finance Department, John H. Gourlie, Chairman, and Mrs. Ellen R. Strong, Treasurer of the Metropolitan Fair, report that they have carefully examined the same from the commencement of the business of the Fair to the present date, and find them correct is every respect.

J. A. ROOSEVELT, WILLIAM T. BLODGETT, C. H. OGDEN.

THE BATTLES IN GRORGIA GEN. SHERMAN'S CAMPAIGN.

A correspondent of the Cincinnati Gazette with th Army of Gen. Sherman furnishes a brief view of the general features of the successful campaign of that officer down to the 16th instant, when our forces had occupied Resaca. We quote from a letter dated at that place on

"The preliminary operations of Gen. Sherman's cam toward the great theatre of operations in North Georgia part of the left of the grand army-all these things are

Equally well understood are the next series of move--the march from the eastern foot of Taylor's Ridge to the western base of the Chattagoota Mountain; the occupation of the town of Tunnel Hill by a portion of Pal mer's Corps; the retreat of the enemy, after some insignifi-cant skirmishing, from the Tunnel Hill range of eminences the movement of Schofield and Newton along the east side of Rocky Face, a part of Chattageota Mountain; the ascent of the northern slope of the ridge by Harker, until stopped by an slm st impassable ravine, across which the enemy opened a fierce fire; the splendid achievement of Col John G. Mitchell, in driving the rebels from the mouth of Buzzard Koest Gap, taking possession of three hills at its western entrance, thus closing it as affectually against the rebels, should they attempt to assail our real through it, as they had closed it against any direct ad rance of ours upon Dalton; the fearless charge of Col. B. F. Scribner across some open fields to the right of the Gap, by which he cleared every thing except the ridge tself of the rebel sharpshooters, and then retired with his troops orderly as if on parade, although exposed to a lunging fire from six pieces of artillery on the summit of Rocky Face; the brave but unavailing effort of Gen. Geary penetrate the enemy's strong barrier by way of Dug Gsp. I cannot now pause to dwell upon any of these. Hereafter, even the burried correspondent, grasping at events as they pass, may find time and opportunity to notice some of them at greater length.

But no one of these achievements, nor all of them embined, had or could put us in possession of Rocky Pace Ridge, the impregnable rampart upon and behin which the rebels lay, and which we must either penetrate or turn ere we could ever hope to see Dalton. Boldly and abruptly the ridge rises out of the valley, covered to its summit with a thick growth of pines, and traversed by innumerable ravines. Two-thirds of the way up, the individual seeking to ascend is met by a stupendous cliff, rising perpendicularly to a height ranging from twenty to sixty leet, according to locality. Could we hope to storm this ridge? A line of skirmishers could defend it against a host. Could we hope to pass through Buzzard Roost Gap, lined as it was with rifle pits and cannon? Annihilation awaited the force that should attempt it. Could Schofield proceed down the valley, along the east side of the ridge, and effect an entrance into Dalton in that way? By so doing he would cut himself off from support by the rest of the army, and probably be crushed by the enemy massing his forces against him. Besides, before going far upon his way, he would find another gorge almost as easily defensible as that of Buzzard Roost.

All this we had discovered last February, when Pal mer, under the direction of Thomas, reconnoitered that strenghold of the enemy; but it is sometimes well to learn on a second time. Four days we lay at the foot of Rocky Pace, engaged in almost incessant skirmishing with the enemy's charpshooters, effecting little or nothing to-wards the accomplishment of our great object, and losing

about eight hundred men.

But a blow was about being struck in another direct tion. Twelve or fifteen miles south of Buzzard Roost is a long oblique cut in Chattagoota Mountain, called Snake Creek Gap, from a small stream which, running through the cut in a southeast direction, finds its way into the Oos tenaula below Ressca. Thither McPherson, with parts of the Villanow. It was on Monday, the 9th of May, when he reached the western entrance of Snake Creek Gap, and prepared to wrest it from the enemy. Singularly enough that been left, both unfortified and ungustded by the ebels; a brigade which was hurried forward to dispute McPierson's passage came too late; and ere the day was closed that General found himself in full possession of this mportant pass, with scarcely the firing of a gun.

"On Tuesday, the 10th, Gen. Dodge with two divisions of the 16th Corps, closely supported by Gen. Logan with the 15th moved from the mouth of the gap, past the Sugar Valley post office, drove in some small bodies of rebel skirmishers, and actually advanced to the range of hills which, in this direction, overlook Resacs. There were the enemy's formidable lines of works in open views—not so strong indeed as they were afterward made, but formidable, nevertheless, even at that time. Had Gen. Dodge thought best to do so, or had Gen. McPherson deemed it prudent, we might then have occupied these works; for they were defended by only a couple of the enemy's brigades. The reason we did not then take possession of Resaca is probably because it was not at that time determined by the commanding General to make his principal

attack upon the enemy's left wing.
"A portion of Hooker's corps went down to the gap on the Fourteenth Corps, Gen. Palmer, Legan its march for fell in immense numbers, and after a gallant rasistance it the same locality. Geary's division, of Hooker's Corps, was broken and pushed back. As it emerged from the preceded; Schofield's corps and Newton's division of How- woods pear the road, and came across some corp fields. ard's followed. Stanley relieved Davis at the mouth of Buzzard Roost Gap, and Wood shifted down toward the right to support Stanley. Howard remained with Wood and Stanley ready to carry these two divisions into Dalton as soon as the attack upon the rebel left should compel them to withdraw from Buzzard Roost. As long as the great movement toward Snake Creek Gap was going on it was Howard's business to keep up as much noise as pos-sible at Buzzard Roost, in order to deceme the enemy as sible at Buzzard Scost, in order to deceme the enemy as to what was taking place, and make him believe as long tributed greatly to this result, and manfully supported the as possible that the assault was to be made directly in battery. front. Accordingly, long after we had left Buzzard Roost, on the morning of the 12th, we could hear Howard's cannon pounding away lively as ever.

"All along the road to Snake Creek Gap I found the through; and the members of the only family I saw in the entire fifteen miles ride to Suske Creek Gap gave me in answer to my question, "Where are the people gone the invariable answer, "Down below!" meaning, of course, further South. "I passed on through the famous gap, which is some

four or five miles in length, and found that infantry, caval ry, and artiflery covered the earth wherever the eye was It was nearly ten o'clock before the storm of battle cess directed. The gap throughout its whole extent literally swarmed with living men. It called to my mind the mighty posts of which we read in ancient history, sacred and profane. As I passed on the immense masses every where confronted me. Surely no nobler body of men, in all that that with which Napoleon, when a mere boy, won a score of pitched battles, destroyed four mighty armies, conquer ed all Itsly, and sent the Austrian cagles acreaming with terror back over the Noric Alps. The pride, the flower, the chivalry, the strength of the whole vast West was the suppression of treason and the advancement of our glorious cause! Was it in such hands? The ardent enthe thoughtful patriot could only hope and pray.

"All this day the army was employed in coming through the gap, and getting into position on the eastern side. Strange that the enemy never once attempted to interfere with our arrangements! Had he thrown himself, with determined valor, upon the heads of our columns, as they were deboucking into the plain, he might have inflicted upon us a heavy loss, and given us a world of trouble. But he was busy strengthening his defences at Resacs. All the operations of our army were covered with consummate skill by the cavalry, and it may be the enemy did not even know our infantry was through the gap until a corps or two was in line of battle upon the eastern side.

Early on the morning of Friday, the 13th of May, preparations were made to advance toward Resaca. Gen. Kilpatrick galloped forth to beat up the enemy's pickets. While he and members of his staff were in advance of his men, he fell into an ambuscade laid by a small party of the enemy and received a painful, although not dangerous wound. Both he and his staff escaped with some difficulty tucky cavalry, heretofore commanding a brigade in the division. It could not have fallen into better hands, for division. It could not have lanest the say with whom Col. Murray is a young man who, truly as any with whom I am acquainted, represents the chivalry of Kentucky. The command of Col. Murray's brigade devolved upon Col. Atkins, 92d Illinois, and this too was fortunate, for the army contains no better man than he. The cavalry operaons were conducted to general satisfaction all through

"At one o'clock P. M. news arrived that Gen. Howard had passed through Buzzard Roost Gap and entered Dalton, finding the place entirely evacuated by the enemy. Shortly after the announcement of this intelligence Oster-baus's and Harrow's divisions of the 15th Corps, Logan's, began to advance toward Resaca. The rebels retreated rapidly until they came to a point where the Sugar Valley road, which so far runs nearly south, bends suddenly round some steep hills to the east, and passing through a ravine between two bills, continues its course to Resaca. Here a beavy skirmish commenced, and at 3 P. M. the enemy opened a battery of 12-pounders upon our troops, and shelled them most viciously. Our own batteries replied with spirit and effect, and a charge being sounded, a part of Osterhaus's division rushed forward and carried the bill upon which the rebel battery had been parted. The rebels withdrew precipitately into their works, and this initial river and take a position in the rebel rear. McPherson

and shell upon it as foriously that it seemed impossible any thing could continue there alive. But Foelkner's and De-Gress's batteries were not to be intimidated any more than were the 27th Missouri infantry which occupied the hill. The former returned fire for fire, and the latter, crouching close to the side of the eminence, held fast to their position. The firing at last ceased; and just as the sun was about to go down Sherman, Thomas, Elliott, and other Generals came up to the summit of the height, and through their glasses viewed long and attentively the rebel works around

"The sun had not risen on the morning of the 14th. Saturday, when the skirmishing recommenced; and until 2 P. M. there was not a single minute in which the dropping sound of musketry could not have been heard. It was half past twelve, perhaps, when the rebels opened a severe fire of both small arms and artillery upon the left of the Fifteenth Corns. At the severe fire of the fifteenth Corns. of the Fifteenth Corps. At the same time the noise of battle could be distinctly heard away to the left. This last was readily understood.

After entering Dalton the day before, and finding nothing there save a ruined and deserted town, Howard with Wood and Stanley's divisions, had moved rapidly southward, to effect a junction with the remainder of the army. The rebels were making a feeble effort to prevent this, and hence the firing upon the left. By neen the pickets of Howard communicated with those of Schofield, or rather with Newton's division, of his own corps, which had marched down the western side of Rocky Face, and passed through Snake Creek Gsp, in company with Schofield. Half an hour later the lines communicated, and thus the entire army was again united and in order of battle surrounding the enemy's works—Howard being upon the extreme left, Schofield next in order, Hooker next, Palmer next, Logan next, and Dodge on the right.

Whoever would form a general idea of the field of battle has only to conceive of a river, the Oostenaula, with a great bend; at the middle of the semicircle thus formed is the town of Resaca, through which runs the Western and Atlanta railroad. The rebel works extend generally north and south in front of the town, bending east and west at the extremities, so as to rest both flank upon the river. Outside of this arc, and in a manner sur-rounding it, extend our lines. A little stream called Camp Creek flows through a narrow valley with precipitous bluffs on each side. For more than a mile our lines extend on one side of this valley and the rebel lines on the other. The opposing armies shoot at each other across this valley. A country abounding in steep hills thickly wooded, with almost impassable ravines, and with here and there a cleared patch of ground, make up the remainder of this great theatre of warfare where two mighty armies

were about to enact another tragedy.

"The rebel army was divided into three great corps Hardee's on the right, Hood in the centre, and Polk or the left. All the reinforcements brought up from Mobile, Savannah, and other parts were distributed among these

"About one o'clock it was determined to attack the enemy's centre, partly for the purpose of directing his attention from the left of the Fifteenth Corps, where, as I have said, he had commenced a fierce fire, but mainly to test his strength and determination, and if possible to drive him from his works upon this part of the field.

"The attack was commenced by Schofield, who, with Newton, advanced gradually up to the enemy's works, Wood and Stanley pressing closely the extreme rebel right. Further to our right Carlin's and King's brigades of John son's division assailed the enemy's lines in front of them with great vigor and determination. Never was field more stubbornly contested. Officers vied with the men in acts of daring. Judah's division of Schofield's corps blazed like a volcano all round a low hill upon which were the rebel works they designed to storm. But every instant their ranks were thinned by showers of bullets and grapeshot hurled amongst them by the rebels, who fought with comparative security inside their rifle pits. Our line wa-vered. Turchin's brigade of Baird's division was ordered to the rescue. As a portion of Johnson's men had done, they hurled themselves down the almost perpendicular binfs of which I have spoken, waded through Camp creek waist deep at the foot, and attempted to charge across the valley under a most murderous fire. The charge was unsuccessful-the bulk of the brigade withdrew; but a couple of regiments crossed the valley, and, taking shelter under the very bluffs upon which the enemy's works were 15th and 16th Corps, wended his way, after passing through | constructed, lay there in comparative security until the Ship Gap in Taylor's Ridge, and marshing by the town of | friendly right came on, when they quietly withdrew.

"Col. John G. Mitchell's brigade, of Davis's division was now sent to the assistance of Turchin. It came gal-lantly into the fight, as does any body of troops with Col. Mitchell for a leader. But the relentless storm from the enemy's works fell upon it also; the Colonel himself narrowly escaped death, a shell exploding at the feet of his horse, a huge fragment knocking to finders the field-glass which hung at his side, and which alone saved his life. The order was finally given for the whole line to withdraw, which it did in good order. The enemy had been driven from a portion of his outer line of works, and although we did not occupy them at that time the fire of our artillery

was so effective that the rebels never reoccupied them. " Joe Johnston now determined to assume the offensive in earnest, and began massing his troops upon his right, with the design of turning our left The movement would probably have been successful, had it not been discovered time and prevented. To Lieut. W. L. Shaw, of Gen Elliott's staff, the honor of the discovery belongs. From a hill upon the right of our lines, his keen eye detected the rebel columns moving toward our left. Hooker was instantly dispatched to breast the coming storm, but before he could arrive it burst upon a portion of our line. Cruft's brigade of Stanley's division occupied an advanced position A portion of Hooker's corps went down to the gap on to the east of the Tilton and Resaca road which Stanley had been ordered to hold. Upon this brigade the rebels woods negr the road, and came across some open fields west of the same, the enemy pressed after it with terrific It seemed as if the left was really about to be turned, but Simonson's old battery, the 5th Indiana, was posted at the western edge of the field, and as the rebels advanced it poured into them so destructive a fire of grape and canister, that notwithstanding they rushed with det mined bravery to within a hundred feet of the battery, they were finally dr ven back in great disorder. A brigade of

"Just as the battle ended upon the left, a terrible con fliet broke out upon the right. During the aftern fions of Logan's Corps and Sprague's brigade of the Six teenth Corps had dislodged the enemy from a line of works country described, as usual, when our army first passes almost exactly in front of the town. Just after dark the through and the members of the only family I saw in the reb is made a desperate effort to regain them. With long nes of infantry, whose fixed bayonets glittered in the moonlight, they charged up the hill upon which the works were situated, and forced their way to the very foot of the bulwer's. But a deadly fire from the Union lines moved them down, until at last they gave up the fruitless contest and find with precipitation and terror down the heights

Early on Sunday morning the skirmshing recommence but it was not until about half past one that any thing of importance took place. (It should be observed here that in order to fill up the gap occasioned by Hocker's withdrawal constitutes genuine nobility, was ever collected together upon this continent. Here was a force much larger than to the right, or rather was expanded so as to cover twice as much ground as it did the day before.) Hooker was now upon the extreme left, and about one P. M. commenced general assault upon the works immediately in front. With dauntless bravery his men advanced to the attack, and Ward's brigade of Butterfi ld's division stormed here. In able hands how effective it might be made for small fort and captured four pieces of artitlery. A tree mendous fire from a long line of rebel rifle pits, bet glorious cause! Was it in such hands? The ardent enthusiast might answer unhesitatingly in the affirmative; but enough remained to hold the cannon and prevent the rebels from recapturing the works. In this fight, Col. Harrison, 70th Indiana, who assumed command of Ward's brigade upon the latter being wounded, particularly dis-tinuished himself.

"Our plan of battle for the coming day was to mass the bulk of our forces upon the wings of our army, assailing the rebals on both flanks at once, while our centre was held by a single line. Had this design been known to the enemy he might have attempted to break our centre dur ing the night. Consequently the utmost vigilance was exercised after dark and some rapid firing which took place in front of Johnson's division about midnight caused the whole army to stand to its guns; but at that very hour the rear guard of the rebei forces was evacuating Resaca The firing precipitated its movements, because the rebels in the town supposed we had discovered the retreat and were about attacking in force in the middle of the night.

"When Monday morning dawned not a rebel, save some traggiers, was in or around Resaca. McPherson immestarted in pursuit. Ere this his advance must have from the rebels. The command of General Kilpatrick's reached Calhoun; and, while I am warned that the 16th division now devolved upon Colonel Murray, Third Ken- of May has passed away and the 17th is about to dawn, I see the Army of the Cumberland filing out from Resaca to oin in the chase."

> A correspondent of the Cincinnati Commercial refers more in detail to the movements which succeeded the

vanced to feel the enemy, and discovered that they had disappeared. Immediately upon being informed of the evacuation of the valley, Gen. Howard informed Gen. Sherman, and our lines at once advanced. It was discovered that the enemy had made good his retreat, carrying

off all his artiflery, but destroying his wagon trains by fire lest they should fall into our hands.

"I have just made a tour of the field on the left, and find it covered with rebel dead and wounded, all of whom were left in our hands for burial and treatment. Prisoners at the hour I write (nine A. M.) are being brought in by hundreds,

"The victory is complete so far, but would have been more so had McPherson's corps been enabled to cross the success encouraged our men greatly. It exasperated the radius in the result of the pontoons and rebels, however; for, concentrating the fire from a dozen cannon upon the summit of the bill, they hurled round shot into his pontoons that the work had to be abandoned.

thousand, of whom fully two thousand are so slightly wounded in the hands and feet that they will be fit for duty in two or three weeks. The killed will amount to about eight hundred, among whom are many brave officers, who hrve left behind them brilliant records. Ohio has lost her

full proportion; Indiana, too, will mourn the loss of many of her brave sons. "The enemy's losses are fully as large as ours, if not larger. In every assault upon our lines their loss was very heavy, and they were driven back, leaving hundreds of their killed and wounded in our hands each day.

"We have taken nearly four thousand prisoners and deserters, including many colonels, lieutenant colonels, majors, and many line and staff officers. Many of them were willing prisoners, who remained in the rebel works and surrendered when we advanced in pursuit. "On the evacuation of the valley, the enemy crossed all his cars and locomotives and burned five spans of the rail-

way bridge, which can be repaired, however, in one or two days.

"At nine this (Monday) morning Hooker's corps threw down pontoons and crossed near Resacs, while Schofield is crossing on the left near Pelton. The cavalry under Stone-man and McCook commenced the pursuit early in the moreing, and at the present writing they are engaging the enemy with artillery. Brisk firing can be heard and the robe rear guard are evidently meeting with a warm parting salute from our cavalry, which this season is in excellent trim and superior to that of former seasons. "Two battles, two defeats, and two retreats have so

dispirited the enemy that it is almost idle to speculate upon what he will probably do, or where he will make his next stand. Sherman is too much for Johnston, especially on the flanking process, and it is not unlikely that the rebel chieftain will retreat until he reaches the Altoona than he could at Buzzard Roost and Sugar Valley.
"Citizens and deserters say that the Altoona Mountain

are filled with very powerful fortifications capable of great resistance, and that the enemy will make a stand there and give us battle. Be that as it may, the country may rely upon Sherman and Thomas, and the invincible force they command, for working out a more glorious victory than the one just achieved.

"For the benefit of those croakers who are never satis fied with the results of our movements upon the enemy, will briefly state wherein our victory consists. We have driven the enemy over forty miles, compelled him to evacu ate a position at Buzzard Roost that may be justly styled the stronghold of the Confederacy; recovered a large amount of territory; repulsed Johnston in every attack upon our lines; taken four thousand prisoners, and com-pelled him to abandon his fortifications near Resses, and destroy his whole ammunition and supply trains; inflicted heavy loss upon him, and demoralized his army to a great extent. As an offset, the enemy has taken but one hundred or one hundred and fifty prisoners, inflicted a loss upon us equal to their own, and by their precipitate retreat stimu-lated our troops to greater efforts when they meet Johns-ton and his borde upon the field of battle.

"To show that Sherman on his advance into the heart of Georgia is strongly in earnest and determined to conquer I may state that he keeps the railroad communication with his army complete. Three hours after the evacuation of Dalton heavy trains loaded with supplies arrived from Ringgold, and before night the town presented quite a business aspect. The rear-guard of the enemy had not vacated Resaca two hours ere the familiar whistle of Sherman's train was heard by the retreating army The telegraph tine was kept up well by Captain Van Duzen, who followed in rear of our advancing columns, and repaired it thoroughly. "Resaca is now the advanced depot for supplying the army, which is well provisioned with bacon, hard-tack,

army, which is well provisioned with bacod, hard-tack, coffice, and all the et ceteras of the commissary department.

"The strength of the enemy is variously estimated at from 55,000 to 70,000 by prisoners and deserters. The better informed, however, place their numbers at 55 000 to 60,000, which corresponds with estimates furnished by our scouts. We have in front Hood's and Hardee's corps, with about 20,000 of Polk's army, commanded by the par-son in person—among the general officers holding com-mands Johnson, Hardee, Hood Stevenson, Pat Cleburne, and Gibson, Bates, and Polk."

CAPTURE OF A REBEL MAIL.

For several weeks past Colonel John Woolley, Provost Marshal of Baltimore, has received information of such a character as to induce him to believe that a regular communication is belog maintained between certain partie residing in Richmond and Baltimore, and he according-ly employed several detectives to detect and arrest the guilty parties. On Saturday afternoon the men succeeded in the arrest of two persons in a small boat abou thirty miles from Baltimore, on the Chesapeake Bay. They gave their names as William H. Rogers and John Fahey. As soon as they perceived they were discovered they threw overboard a lerge rebel mail, the most important part of which was recovered. It consists of about a thousand letters, a considerable amount of gold, Cenfederate bonds. United States money, &c. Several of the letters are stated to be of importance to the Government. Many of then relate only to family affairs, others are devoted to business matters, while not a few are of a more affectionate character. About five hundred of the letters are addressed to persons in Baltimore, and some three hundred are addressed to persons in various counties of the State. The remaining three or four hundred letters are for persons in almost every State in the country, not a few of them being for parties in New England. The letters for Philadelphia and New York are, in several instances, of the most impertant character. The examination of this mail has given be developed, and the denouement of which will be of in-terest to persons in New York as well as other places. In many of the letters remittances were made by the writers to those to whom the letters were addressed, while in others money, clothing, &cc. are asked for. The correspondence in many cases is exceedingly humorous, and in others quite sorrowful; but we are informed by Colone that in almost every instance the writers speak in Woolley that in almost every instance writers speak in the most determined character of their confidence in the ultimate triumph of the South. Many of the writers de tail the wants and privations to which they are subjected, and the high prices of food, clothing, &c. One states that he was receiving \$5 500 per annum, but did not depend he was receiving \$5.500 per annum, but did not dependently altogether on his salary, as he paid \$400 per week board, and for a suit of broadcloth he had paid \$1,000, for a black slik hat \$150, and a pair of boots \$250. The price of board in hotels was \$30 per day. One of the writers board in hotels was \$30 per day. One of the writer states that he purchased a breakfast as follows: One los states that he purchased a preasure as total \$3.50, of bread \$1, four onions \$2, one egg 50 cents; total \$3.50, and with this meal he was satisfied until the next day. A and with this meal he was saished until the next day. A lady states that she could do without another dreas if she could get but one pound of tea. The Spottswood Hotel and Ballard's Hotel, in Richmond, show camplete hills of fare, but immense papes, for lostance: Champagne \$80 per bottle, old cognac brandy \$75, Jeffrey's ale \$15, Alsop's pale ale \$25, eggs \$4, hsh \$5 to \$7, beefsteak \$6, codiec and bread \$5, tea and bread \$5, vegetables from \$3 to \$5. So that a person taking dinner at a hotel could ge off with little less than \$20. In nearly every latter the writers advise and persuade those to whom they write to send their letters by the first-of truce boat —Sun.

FIGHT OF THE SASSACUS.

The following account of the fight between the Sassacus and the rebel ram Albemarle is furnished to us by an officer who was present. It was certainly an act of desperate daring on the part of Capt. Rox to run his wooden gunboat, right amidship, into the iron-clad ram, in the hope of possibly sinking her by its sheer weight, and he would have succeeded if his consorts had been near enough to aid with

"On the 5th instant, in the afternoon, the rebel ram came down into Albemarie Sound in the direction of our vessels. She had a gunbout with her, and made boldly and defiantly for the Sassacus, Commander Frank Roe, which was some distance in advance of our other vessels. The Sassacus moved upon her and the ram fired; but our double ender kept right on, dalivering her broadside as she passed the ram, and then, turning, crossed her stern and engaged the gunboat, which surrendered to the Sassacus. Then the Sassacus turned up in the ram, got her broadside fairly, and with her head right on, at full speed, struck the ram a fearful blow, which only brought our feet, light vessel alongside a grim monster, more formidable than the Atlan-tic or the Merrimac. Meanwhile our other boats were a good distance off, and Capt, Smith, who could have ren-dered efficient service, full four miles. In this position the ram opened with musketry, and then seat a hundred pound rifle shot through and through the Sassacus. Still Com-mander Roe held on, trying to force his antagonist under, and hoping for sid. The shot flew, the guns blazed muzzle to mustle. Only some one to come in, and the victory,

perhaps, ours!
"But suddenly a dense cloud of hot steam arose from be low-terific-awful-every where. No one even could see. Now to be boarded! For the enemy's shot had evacuation of Resaca, and to the losses of both armies in the previous battles. We quote the following:

"The morning (of Monday, the 16th) was very bright, but the whole valley was filled with smoke and fog. At daylight not a gun was heard. Newton immediately advanced to feel the enemy, and discovered that they had spinitering the solid shot of its antagonist. The engine of the Sassacus still worked, but of itself, and carried her around, and then fighting the guns all the time, her enemy making off, she drifted gradually out of action, with one boiler lost and her stern knocked off. And now our other boats came in and battled magnificently, the ram still re-treating and blazing away at our little vessels, who followed her like wasps.

'The sun set upon the engagement, but the guns, fitful,

angry, booming, did not cease until it was dark. The rar retreated up a river, and our men anchored on the scen

of the conflict. The Sassacus kept her prize under her guns, and after the action took her crew on board.

"The conflict was short, but awful. Sixteen of the men of the Sassacus were horribly scalded, one killed, and four others mortally wounded. But few were wounded

OFFICIAL WAR BULLETIN.

No. 26 .- Secretary Stanton to General Dix. WAR DEPARTMENT, Washington, May 18-10.45 P. M.

To Major Gen. Dix: We have no despatches to-day rom Gen. Grant, nor from Generals Butler or Sherman. The reports from the Kanawha confirm the destruction of the bridge over New River, and the destruction of several miles of the railroad track, by Gen. Crook's command, and state that he has fought three battles with Gen. Sam. Jones and A. G. Jenkins, and defeated them, the rebel loss being over six hundred killed and three Bundred prisoners. Gen. Jenkins fell into our hands mortally

All of our wounded that can be removed from Frede. icksburg have reached Washington. The rebel prisoners have been removed from Belle Plain.

Visiters from the Army of the Potomac represent the troops to be in excellent condition, and reinforcements were rapidly arriving.

EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

No. 27-Secretary Stanton to General Dix. WAR DEPARTMENT.

Washington, May 19—10.15 P. M.
Major General Dix: No official reports of military ope ations to-day have been received by this Department rom Gen. Grant or Gen. Butler.

Reports from Gen. Sherman's command, dated at Kingston, (Ga.) 2 P. M., to-day, announce that Sherman reached Kingston and encamped last night. This morning he advanced upon the enemy, who again retreated.

The despatch states that while it was being written Hooker and Howard's guns were hammering at Johnston and the two armies were in plain sight of each other, two miles east of Kingston.

Davis's division of the Fourteenth Corps is in possession Gen. Sherman reports the weather fine, roads good, and

ountry more open and less mountainous. EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

No. 28-Secretary Stanton to Gen. Dix. WASHINGTON, MAY 20, 1864-6 30 P. M.

Major General DIX: This afternoon we have despatched lated at half-past eight this morning from Gen. Grant. Last evening an effort was made by Ewell's corps to urn our right. They were promptly repulsed by Birney's and Tyler's divisions, and some of Warren's troops that were on the extreme right. About three hundred prisoners fell into our hands, besides many killed and wounded Our loss foots up a little over six hundred wounded and about one hundred and fifty killed and missing. Gen. Grant says that probably our killed and missing are over-stated

Over twenty five thousand veteran reinforcements have been forwarded to Gen. Grant. The condition of the army, and his contemplated operations, are entirely satisfactory. The army is abundantly supplied.

Under instructions from this Department, Col. Schriver, commanding at Fredericksburg, is arresting and sending to Washington as hostages for our wounded soldiers sent to Richmond by Mayor Slaughter, an equal number of the principal citizens of Fredericksburg and its vicinity. Nine persons are in custody, who are suspected to have been engaged with Mayor Slaughter. The Mayor had nade his escape before intelligence of the outrage reached Washington.

Our gunboats have reached Fredericksburg, and the sick and wounded who could not be transported overland will be brought here on water transports.

Despatches from Gen. Sherman, dated at Kingston, 10 clock last night, state that during the day he had pushed column beyond that place after Johnston, as far as Cassville, skirmishing the latter part of the day with Hardee's corps. Cars were expected to reach Kingston to-day. A hard fight for Atlanta was looked for.

No reports have been received from Gen. Butler to-day. Major Gen. Hunter has been placed in command of the Department of West Virginia, including the Shenandoah

The latest dates from Major Gen. Canby were at Vicks. burg. The river was reported to be blockaded by shore patteries of the enemy at different points, but measures have been taken by him which were believed to be adequate for clearing the river of all such obstructions, and enable him to reach Alexandria, where he will take command of the army.

EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

No. 29-Secretary Stanton to Gen. Dix.

WASHINGTON, MAY 21, 1864-9.30 P. M. Major General Dix: Dear state that our forces found in Rome a good deal of provisions and of fine iron works and machinery. We have secured two good bridges and one excellent ford across the Etewah. The cars are now arriving at Kingston with stores, and two days would be given to replenish and

A despatch just received from Gen. Banks, dated at Alexandria the 8th day of May, states that "the dam will be completed to-morrow (May 9) and the gunboats relieved." He would then move immediately for the Missis-

Gen. Canby was at the mouth of Red river on the 14th of May, collecting forces to assist Banks if necessary. Despatches from Gen. Butler, dated at 10 o'clock last night, (Friday,) report that be had been fighting all day the enemy endeavoring to close in on our lines. We shall

We have captured the rebel Gen. Walker, of the Texas EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

No. 30 .- Secretary Stanton to Gen. Dix.

WASHINGTON, MAY 22-10 P. M. To Major Gen. Dix: On Friday evening Gen. Grant commenced a movement for the purpose of compelling Lee to abandon his position at Spottsylvania, the details of which, for obvious reasons, should not be made public It has thus far progressed successfully. Longstreet's corps started south at one o'clock on Friday night-an hour and a half after Hancock moved. Ewell's corps

The indications are that the rebal army has fallen back beyond the North Anna. Hoke's brigade has joined Lee. The movement of Gen. Grant has thus far been accomplished without any severe engagement or secious inter ruption. We now occupy Guiney's Station, Milford Station, and south of the Matapony on that line.

followed Longstreet last night.

A despatch received this morning from Gen. Canby, dated May 14, at the mouth of the Red river, says : "We have rumors to-day from rebel sources that the gunboats. except two, succeeded in getting over the falls at Alexandria on the day mentioned in Gen. Banka's despatch." No despatches have been received to day from Gen.

Despatches from Kingston state that Gen. Sherman's proces are resting and replenishing their supplies. EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

> No. 31-Secretary Stanton to General Dix. WASHINGTON, MAY 23-1.35 P. M.

Major Gen. Dix: Despatches from Major Gen. Canby, dated mouth of Red river, midnight, May 15, state that Admiral Porter has just arrived. The remainder of the unboats will arrive to-night. Gen. Banks will probably each Semmesport, on the Atchafalaya, to morrow." A lespatch from Admiral Porter, dated on board the flag-ship Black Hawk, mouth of the Red river, May 16, states that the portion of the squadron above the falls at Alexandria have een released from their unpleasant position, owing to the ndefatigable exertions of Lieut. Col. Bailey, acting engineer of the Nineteenth Army Corps, who proposed and built s tree dam of six hundred feet across the river, at the lower falls, which enabled the vessels to pass in safety to the back water of the Mississippi, reaching Alexandria, and alowed them to pass over all the shoals and the obstructions planted by the enemy to a point of safety. Lieut. Col. Bailey will be immediately nominated for promotion, for distinguished and meritorious services. An un official report from Cairo, dated May 22, states that the army and gunboats were all safe at the mouth of Red river

Major. Gen. Sherman, by a despatch dated 8,30 P. M. last night, reports that he will be ready by morning to resume his operations. Returned veterans and regiments, he says, have more than replaced all losses and detachments.

Gen. Grant or Gen. Butier. Official reports of this Depart ment show that, within eight days after the great battle of Spottsylvania Court-House, many thousand veteran troops have been forwarded to Gen. Grant. The whole army has been amply supplied with full rations of subsistence. Upwards of twenty thousand sick and wounded have been transported from the fields of battle to the Washington hospitals and placed under surgical care. Over eight thousand prisoners have been transported from the field to the prison depot, and a large amount of artillery and other impediments of an active campaign brought away. Several thousand fresh cavalry horses have been forwarded to the army, and the grand Army of the Potomac is now fully as strong in numbers-better equipped, supplied, and furnished-as when the campaign opened. Several thousand reinforcements have also been forwarded to other armies in the field, and ample supplies to all during the fame time. Over thirty thousand volunteers for a hundred days have been mustered into service—clothed, armed, equipped, and transported to their respective positions. This statement is due to the chiefs of the army staff and bureaus, and their respective corps,

to whom the credit belongs. EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

No. 32-Secretary Stanton to General Dix

WASHINGTON, MAY 24-10.30 P. M. To Major General Dix: A despatch from Gen. Grant lated at eleven o'clock last night states that the army moved from its position to the North Anna, following closely Lee's army.

The Fifth and Sixth Corps marched by way of Harris's Store to Jericho Ford, and the Fifth Corps succeeded in effecting a crossing and getting a position without much opposition. Shortly after, however, they were violently attacked, and handsomely repulsed the assault without much loss to us. We captured some prisoners. Every thing looks exceedingly favorable to us.

Another despatch, giving in detail the movements of our corps and speaking of the rebel assault on Warren's position, says:

"He was attacked with great vehemence. I have never heard more rapid massive firing either of artillery or mus-ketry. The attack resulted in a destructive repulse of the enemy. At the position attacked by Hancock the rebels were entrenched and in considerable force between the creek he had crossed and the river, and made a pertinacious resistance to his onset, but before dark he had forced them from their works and driven them across the atres

It is also said that in these engagements the slaughter of the enemy was very great, but our lesses inconsiderable. The rebels charged against our artillery, and suffered especially from canister.

A despatch from Gen. Grant, dated this morning at eight o'clock, has been received. It is stated that the enemy have fallen back from the North Anna and we are in pursuit. Negroes who have come in say that Lee is falling back to Richmond.

Other official despatches from headquarters say that Warren, Burnside, and Hancock are pushing forward after the retreating army. Gen. Warren captured a good number of prisoners last evening, but has not had time to count them, or ascertain his loss. Hancock, in storming the rifle pits this side of the river last evening, also took between one and two hundred prisoners, and drove many rebels into the river, where they were drowned. Warren also captured some official papers, amongst them an order calling out all boys of seventeen years of age to garrison Richmond. Ambulance men and musicians are also ordered to the ranks.

Sheridan was this morning at Dunkirk, and will be at Milford to-night.

No despatches have been received to-day from Gen. Sherman, and none are expected for several days.

Despatches from Gen. Butler have been received to-day relative chiefly to the respective forces. Admiral Lee, in telegram dated the 22d to the Secretary of the Navy, states that "last night (Saturday night) the enemy attacked the army and were handsomely repulsed."

A despatch from Major Gen. Canby, dated the 18th, at the mouth of Red river, states that "Gen. Banks's troops arrived at Semmesport yesterday, and will reach Morgansea to-day. The army is in better condition than was expected, and will soon be ready to assume offensive opera-EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

THE METHODIST CHURCH AND SLAVERY

On Tuesday last the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, now in session at Philadelphia, passed, by a vote of 240 to 8, an amendment to the "rule" on slavery. This General Rule has hitherto only forbidden with the intention to enslave them;" the amendment forbids also the holding of slaves, and when it is passed by three fourths of the annual Conferences, as it doubtless will be, slavery will be entirely expelled from this one of the Christian churches.

The body which has thus declared itself in favor of universal liberty, as a religious duty, meets once in four years, and consists of delegates from fifty annual conferences, representing 9,922 churches or societies, and 918,650 members, who are found in every free State, and in most of the Border slave States. Though eight members voted against the amendment, even these did not acknowledge themselves in favor of slaveholding, except under certain restrictions: the minority report which they submitted and advocated proposed only to amend the general rule so as to forbid the selling of human beings, or the buying or holding them, except for reasons purely humane." With the majority, forbidding all slaveholding, voted all the delegates from Missouri and Arkaneas, and the greater portion of those from Maryland, Delaware, Kentucky, and West Vir-

The Methodist "Book of Discipline" declares "that The Methodist "Book of Discipline" declares "that we are as much as ever convinced of the great evil of slavery. We believe that the buying, selling, or holding of human beings, to be used as chattels, is contrary to the laws of God and nature, and inconsistent with the golden rule, and with that rule in our discipline which requires all who desire to continue among us to 'do no harm,' and to 'avoid evil of every kind. We therefore affectionately admonish all our preachers and people to keep themselves pure from this great evil, and to seek its extirpation by all lawful and christian measures." But the General Confer-ence of 1860 declared this passage to be only "advisory." Until the year 1844 the Methodists in the whole United

States were joined in one body. In that year a division took place, the Methodists of the Southern States seed ing in a body, and setting up a separate organization, the Methodist Episcopal Church South" The cause of this secession was slavery; and the Southern body became from time to time more and more openly a slaveholding church. It ceased to bear witness against the evils of church. It ceased to bear witness against the evils of slavery; became next strongly pro-slavery; and finally the influence of its numerous ministers and journals was cast, almost without exception, in favor of secession. The Southern Methodiat Church was, in fact, one of the most powerful agencies in the work which Mr. Yancey properly called "firing the southern heart, and precipitating the South into revolution." Mr. Calhoun foresaw this, and expressed his joy at the secession of 1844. The influence this pro-slavery organization was able to wield in favor of treason and rebellion may be estimated from its numbers. It contained, in 1859, 2,166 travelling preachers, 5,177 local preachers, and 511,601 members; 21 colleges for young men, and 28 colleges and 27 high schools for young local preachers, and 511,601 members; 21 colleges for young men, and 28 colleges and 27 high schools for young women, and 10 journals—8 of them weekly. In all of these journals the justice of slavery and the righteousness and necessity of secession were zealously taught.

The Northern Methodist Church, though it continued to declare the wickedness of slavery, still admitted slave-holders to membership; until the outbreak of the war a considerable party justified this course, while a smaller section demanded even greater latitude for slaveholders.

section demanded even greater latitude for slaveholders, or at least less interference with them by the church. It will require a year to procure the ratification by the annual conferences of the amendment just adopted at Philadelphia; but this ratification is held to be certain.

[New York Evening Post.

DESTRUCTION OF REBEL SALT WORKS.

The Navy Department has received a commun rom the United States barque Ethan Allen, blockading off Murrell's Inlet, South Carolina, reporting the destruction of valuable salt works. The works were at a place called Cane Pitch, twelve miles from the Inlet. Upo reaching the works an armed crew was sent ashore, who succeeded in destroying them and burning the buildings. Extensive arrangements had been made for extending the works to double their size. The pans were of cast iron, and easily broken. There were four works, each containing twelve large pans, the water being raised from the says, beach by horse power, leading into a cistern large enough to contain one hundred thousand gallons. The sait was We have no official reports since my last telegram from